Java Programming Tutorial Object-oriented Programming (OOP) Basics

1. Why OOP?

Suppose that you want to assemble your own PC, you go to a hardware store and pick up a motherboard, a processor, some RAMs, a hard disk, a casing, a power supply, and put them together. You turn on the power, and the PC runs. You need not worry whether the CPU is 1-core or 6-core; the motherboard is a 4-layer or 6-layer; the hard disk has 4 plates or 6 plates, 3 inches or 5 inches in diameter; the RAM is made in Japan or Korea, and so on. You simply put the hardware *components* together and expect the machine to run. Of course, you have to make sure that you have the correct *interfaces*, i.e., you pick an IDE hard disk rather than a SCSI hard disk, if your motherboard supports only IDE; you have to select RAMs with the correct speed rating, and so on. Nevertheless, it is not difficult to set up a machine from hardware *components*.

Similarly, a car is assembled from parts and components, such as chassis, doors, engine, wheels, brake and transmission. The components are reusable, e.g., a wheel can be used in many cars (of the same specifications).

Hardware, such as computers and cars, are assembled from parts, which are reusable components.

TABLE OF CONTENTS (HIDE)

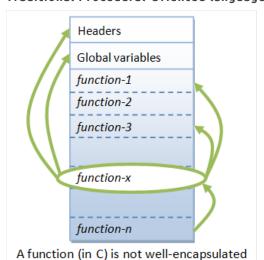
- 1. Why OOP?
- 2. OOP in Java
 - 2.1 Class & Instances
 - 2.2 A Class is a 3-Compartment B
 - 2.3 Class Definition
 - 2.4 Creating Instances of a Class
 - 2.5 Dot Operator
 - 2.6 Member Variables
 - 2.7 Member Methods
 - 2.8 Putting them together: An O
 - 2.9 Constructors
 - 2.10 Method Overloading
 - 2.11 public vs. private Acces
 - 2.12 Information Hiding and Enca
 - 2.13 Getters and Setters
 - 2.14 Keyword "this"
 - 2.15 Method toString()
 - 2.16 Constants (final)
 - 2.17 Putting Them Together in th
- 3. More Examples on Classes
 - 3.1 Example: The Account Class
 - 3.2 Example: The Ball class
 - 3.3 The Author and Book Classe
 - 3.4 The Student Class
 - 3.5 The MyPoint and MyCircle
 - 3.6 The MyTime class
 - 3.7 Exercises on Defining Classes



How about software? Can you "assemble" a software application by picking a routine here, a routine there, and expect the program to run? The answer is obviously no! Unlike hardware, it is very difficult to "assemble" an application from *software components*. Since the advent of computer 70 years ago, we have written tons and tons of programs. However, for each new application, we have to re-invent the wheels and write the program from scratch.

Why re-invent the wheels? Why rewriting codes?

Traditional Procedural-Oriented languages



Traditional procedural-oriented programming languages (such as C, Fortran, Cobol and Pascal) suffer some notable drawbacks in creating reusable software components:

- The procedural-oriented programs are made up of functions. Functions are less reusable. It is very difficult to copy a function from one program and reuse in another program because the function is likely to reference the global variables and other functions. In other words, functions are not well-encapsulated as a self-contained reusable unit.
- The procedural languages are not suitable of high-level abstraction for solving real life problems. For example, C programs uses constructs such as if-else, forloop, array, method, pointer, which are low-level and hard to abstract real problems such as a Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system or a computer soccer game.

In brief, the traditional procedural-languages *separate* the data structures and algorithms of the software entities.

In the early 1970s, the US Department of Defense (DoD) commissioned a task force to investigate why its IT budget always went out of control; but without much to show for. The findings are:

1. 80% of the budget went to the software (with the remaining 20% to the hardware).

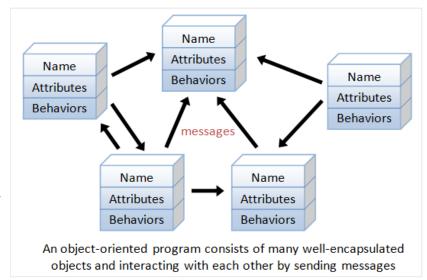
- 2. More than 80% of the software budget went to maintenance (only the remaining 20% for new software development).
- 3. Hardware components could be applied to various products, and their integrity normally did not affect other products. (Hardware can share and reuse! Hardware faults are isolated!)
- 4. Software procedures were often non-sharable and not reusable. Software faults could affect other programs running in computers.

The task force proposed to make software behave like hardware OBJECT. Subsequently, DoD replaces over 450 computer languages, which were then used to build DoD systems, with an object-oriented language called Ada.

Object-Oriented Programming Languages

Object-oriented programming (OOP) languages are designed to overcome these problems.

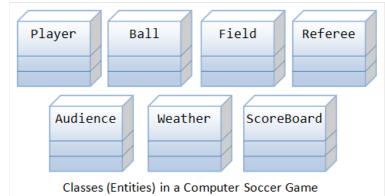
- The basic unit of OOP is a class, which encapsulates both the static properties and dynamic operations within a "box", and specifies the public interface for using these boxes. Since classes are wellencapsulated, it is easier to reuse these classes. In other words, OOP combines the data structures and algorithms of a software entity inside the same box.
- OOP languages permit higher level of abstraction for solving real-life problems. The traditional procedural language (such as C and Pascal) forces you to think in terms of the structure of the computer (e.g. memory bits and bytes, array, decision,



loop) rather than thinking in terms of the problem you are trying to solve. The OOP languages (such as Java, C++ and C#) let you think in the problem space, and use software objects to represent and abstract entities of the problem space to solve the problem.

As an example, suppose you wish to write a computer soccer games (which I consider as a complex application). It is quite difficult to model the game in procedural-oriented languages. But using OOP languages, you can easily model the program accordingly to the "real things" appear in the soccer games.

- Player: attributes include name, number, location in the field, and etc; operations include run, jump, kickthe-ball, and etc.
- Ball:
- Reference:
- Field:
- Audience:
- Weather:



Most importantly, some of these classes (such as Ball and Audience) can be reused in another application, e.g., computer basketball game, with little or no modification.

Benefits of OOP

The procedural-oriented languages focus on procedures, with function as the basic unit. You need to first figure out all the functions and then think about how to represent data.

The object-oriented languages focus on components that the user perceives, with objects as the basic unit. You figure out all the objects by putting all the data and operations that describe the user's interaction with the data.

Object-Oriented technology has many benefits:

- Ease in software design as you could think in the problem space rather than the machine's bits and bytes. You are dealing with high-level concepts and abstractions. Ease in design leads to more productive software development.
- Ease in software maintenance: object-oriented software are easier to understand, therefore easier to test, debug, and maintain.
- Reusable software: you don't need to keep re-inventing the wheels and re-write the same functions for different situations. The fastest and safest way of developing a new application is to reuse existing codes fully tested and proven codes.

2. OOP in Java

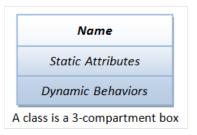
2.1 Class & Instances

In Java, a class is a definition of objects of the same kind. In other words, a class is a blueprint, template, or prototype that defines and describes the static attributes and dynamic behaviors common to all objects of the same kind.

An instance is a realization of a particular item of a class. In other words, an instance is an instantiation of a class. All the instances of a class have similar properties, as described in the class definition. For example, you can define a class called "Student" and create three instances of the class "Student" for "Peter", "Paul" and "Pauline".

The term "object" usually refers to instance. But it is often used loosely, which may refer to a class or an instance.

2.2 A Class is a 3-Compartment Box encapsulating Data and Operations

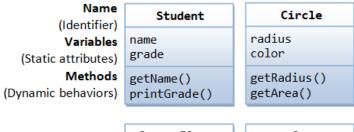


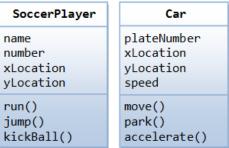
A class can be visualized as a three-compartment box, as illustrated:

- 1. Name (or identity): identifies the class.
- 2. Variables (or attribute, state, field): contains the static attributes of the class.
- 3. Methods (or behaviors, function, operation): contains the dynamic behaviors of the class.

In other words, a class encapsulates the static attributes (data) and dynamic behaviors (operations that operate on the data) in a box.

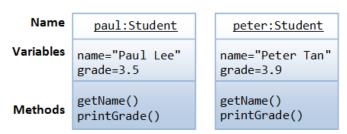
The followings figure shows a few examples of classes:





Examples of classes

The following figure shows two instances of the class Student, identified as "paul" and "peter".



Two instances of the class Student

Unified Modeling Language (UML) Class and Instance Diagrams: The above class diagrams are drawn according to the UML notations. A class is represented as a 3-compartment box, containing name, variables, and methods, respectively. Class name is shown in bold and centralized. An instance (object) is also represented as a 3-compartment box, with instance name shown as instanceName:Classname and underlined.

Brief Summary

- 1. A class is a programmer-defined, abstract, self-contained, reusable software entity that mimics a real-world thing.
- 2. A class is a 3-compartment box containing the name, variables and the methods.
- 3. A class encapsulates the data structures (in variables) and algorithms (methods). The values of the variables constitute its state. The

methods constitute its behaviors.

4. An instance is an instantiation (or realization) of a particular item of a class.

2.3 Class Definition

In Java, we use the keyword class to define a class. For examples:

```
// class name
public class Circle {
   double radius;
                            // variables
  String color;
  double getRadius() {...} // methods
   double getArea() {...}
public class SoccerPlayer { // class name
  int number;
                             // variables
   String name;
  int x, y;
   void run() {...}
                            // methods
   void kickBall() {...}
}
```

The syntax for class definition in Java is:

```
[AccessControlModifier] class ClassName {
    // class body contains definition of variables and methods
    ...
}
```

We shall explain the access control modifier, such as public and private, later.

Class Naming Convention: A class name shall be a noun or a noun phrase made up of several words. All the words shall be initial-capitalized (camel-case). Use a *singular* noun for class name. Choose a meaningful and self-descriptive classname. For examples, SoccerPlayer, HttpProxyServer, FileInputStream, PrintStream and SocketFactory.

2.4 Creating Instances of a Class

To create an instance of a class, you have to:

- 1. Declare an instance identifier (instance name) of a particular class.
- 2. Construct the instance (i.e., allocate storage for the instance and initialize the instance) using the "new" operator.

For examples, suppose that we have a class called Circle, we can create instances of Circle as follows:

```
// Declare 3 instances of the class Circle, c1, c2, and c3
Circle c1, c2, c3;
// Allocate and construct the instances via new operator
c1 = new Circle();
c2 = new Circle(2.0);
c3 = new Circle(3.0, "red");
// You can declare and construct in the same statement
Circle c4 = new Circle();
```

2.5 Dot Operator

The variables and methods belonging to a class are formally called member variables and member methods. To reference a member variable or method, you must:

- 1. first identify the instance you are interested in, and then
- 2. Use the dot operator (.) to reference the member (variable or method).

For example, suppose that we have a class called Circle, with two variables (radius and color) and two methods (getRadius() and getArea()). We have created three instances of the class Circle, namely, c1, c2 and c3. To invoke the method getArea(), you must first identity the instance of interest, says c2, then use the *dot operator*, in the form of c2.getArea(), to invoke the getArea() method of instance c2.

For example,

```
// Declare and construct instances c1 and c2 of the class Circle
Circle c1 = new Circle ();
Circle c2 = new Circle ();
// Invoke member methods for the instance c1 via dot operator
System.out.println(c1.getArea());
```

```
System.out.println(c1.getRadius());
// Reference member variables for instance c2 via dot operator
c2.radius = 5.0;
c2.color = "blue";
```

Calling getArea() without identifying the instance is meaningless, as the radius is unknown (there could be many instances of Circle-each maintaining its own radius).

In general, suppose there is a class called AClass with a member variable called aVariable and a member method called aMethod().

An instance called anInstance is constructed for AClass. You use anInstance.aVariable and anInstance.aMethod().

2.6 Member Variables

A member variable has a name (or identifier) and a type; and holds a value of that particular type (as descried in the earlier chapter). A member variable can also be an instance of a certain class (to be discussed later).

Variable Naming Convention: A variable name shall be a noun or a noun phrase made up of several words. The first word is in lowercase and the rest of the words are initial-capitalized (camel-case), e.g., fontSize, roomNumber, xMax, yMin and xTopLeft. Take note that variable name begins with an lowercase, while class name begins with an uppercase.

The formal syntax for variable definition in Java is:

```
[AccessControlModifier] type variableName [= initialValue];
[AccessControlModifier] type variableName-1 [= initialValue-1] [, type variableName-2 [= initialValue-2]] ...;
```

For example,

```
private double radius;
public int length = 1, width = 1;
```

2.7 Member Methods

A method (as described in the earlier chapter):

- 1. receives parameters from the caller,
- 2. performs the operations defined in the method body, and
- 3. returns a piece of result (or void) to the caller.

The syntax for method declaration in Java is as follows:

```
[AccessControlModifier] returnType methodName ([argumentList]) {
    // method body or implementation
    ......
}
```

For examples:

```
public double getArea() {
   return radius*radius*Math.PI;
}
```

Method Naming Convention: A method name shall be a verb, or a verb phrase made up of several words. The first word is in lowercase and the rest of the words are initial-capitalized (camel-case). For example, getRadius(), getParameterValues().

Take note that variable name is a noun (denoting a static attribute), while method name is a verb (denoting an action). They have the same naming convention. Nevertheless, you can easily distinguish them from the context. Methods take arguments in parentheses (possibly zero argument with empty parentheses), but variables do not. In this writing, methods are denoted with a pair of parentheses, e.g., println(), getArea() for clarity.

2.8 Putting them together: An OOP Example

A class called Circle is to be defined as illustrated in the class diagram. It contains two variables: radius (of type double) and color (of type String); and three methods: getRadius(), getColor(), and getArea().

Three instances of Circles called c1, c2, and c3 shall then be constructed with their respective data members, as shown in the instance diagrams.

The source codes for Circle.java is as follows:

Class Definition Circle -radius:double=1.0 -color:String="red" +getRadius():double +getColor():String +getArea():double Instances c1:Circle c2:Circle c3:Circle -radius=2.0 -radius=2.0 -radius=1.0 -color="blue" -color="red" -color="red" +getRadius() +getRadius() +getRadius() +getColor() +getColor() +getColor() +getArea() +getArea() +getArea()

Circle.java

```
// Define the Circle class
    3
      // Private variables
      private double radius;
 5
       private String color;
 6
 7
       // Constructors (overloaded)
 8
       public Circle() {
                                        // 1st Constructor
         radius = 1.0;
9
10
         color = "red";
11
12
       public Circle(double r) {
                                        // 2nd Constructor
13
         radius = r;
          color = "red";
14
15
16
       public Circle(double r, String c) { // 3rd Constructor
17
        radius = r;
18
         color = c;
19
20
21
       // Public methods
22
      public double getRadius() {
23
         return radius;
24
25
       public String getColor() {
26
         return color;
27
28
       public double getArea() {
29
        return radius*radius*Math.PI;
30
31
```

Compile "Circle.java" into "Circle.class".

Notice that the Circle class does not have a main() method. Hence, it is NOT a standalone program and you cannot run the Circle class by itself. The Circle class is meant to be a building block and used in other programs.

TestCircle.java

We shall now write another class called <code>TestCircle</code>, which uses the <code>Circle</code> class. The <code>TestCircle</code> class has a <code>main()</code> method and can be executed.

```
// Construct another instance of the Circle class called {\it c2}
10
11
           Circle c2 = new Circle(2.0);
                                                  // Use 2nd constructor
           System.out.println("Radius is " + c2.getRadius()
12
              + " Color is " + c2.getColor()
13
              + " Area is " + c2.getArea());
14
15
16
           // Construct yet another instance of the Circle class called c3
17
           Circle c3 = new Circle();
                                                  // Use 1st constructor
           System.out.println("Radius is " + c3.getRadius()
18
             + " Color is " + c3.getColor()
20
              + " Area is " + c3.getArea());
2.1
        }
2.2
    }
```

Compile TestCircle.java into TestCircle.class.

Run the TestCircle and study the output:

```
Radius is 2.0 Color is blue Area is 12.566370614359172
Radius is 2.0 Color is red Area is 12.566370614359172
Radius is 1.0 Color is red Area is 3.141592653589793
```

2.9 Constructors

A *constructor* is a special method that has the *same method name as the class name*. In the above Circle class, we define three overloaded versions of constructor "Circle(....)". A constructor is used to *construct* and *initialize* all the member variables. To create a new instance of a class, you need to use a special "new" operator followed by a call to one of the constructors. For example,

```
Circle c1 = new Circle();
Circle c2 = new Circle(2.0);
Circle c3 = new Circle(3.0, "red");
```

A constructor is different from an ordinary method in the following aspects:

- The name of the constructor method is the same as the class name, and by classname convention, begins with an uppercase.
- Constructor has no return type (or implicitly returns void). Hence, no return statement is allowed inside the constructor's body.
- Constructor can only be invoked via the "new" operator. It can only be used once to initialize the instance constructed. You cannot call
 the constructor afterwards.
- Constructors are not inherited (to be explained later).

A constructor with no parameter is called the *default constructor*, which initializes the member variables to their default value. For example, the Circle() in the above example.

2.10 Method Overloading

Method overloading means that the *same method name* can have *different implementations* (versions). However, the different implementations must be distinguishable by their argument list (either the number of arguments, or the type of arguments, or their order).

Example: The method average () has 3 versions, with different argument lists. The caller can invoke the chosen version by supplying the matching arguments.

```
// Example to illustrate Method Overloading
 2
     public class TestMethodOverloading {
                                                             // A
 3
       public static int average(int n1, int n2) {
          return (n1+n2)/2;
 5
 6
       public static double average(double n1, double n2) { // B
 7
 8
          return (n1+n2)/2;
 9
       }
10
       public static int average(int n1, int n2, int n3) { // C
11
12
         return (n1+n2+n3)/3;
13
14
15
       public static void main(String[] args) {
          System.out.println(average(1, 2));
                                                // Use A
          System.out.println(average(1.0, 2.0)); // Use B
17
          System.out.println(average(1, 2, 3)); // Use C
18
          System.out.println(average(1.0, 2)); // Use B - int 2 implicitly casted to double 2.0
19
20
           // average(1, 2, 3, 4); // Compilation Error - No matching method
```

22 }

Overloading Circle Class' Constructor

The above Circle class has three versions of constructors differentiated by their parameter list, as followed:

```
Circle()
Circle(double r)
Circle(double r, String c)
```

Depending on the actual argument list used when invoking the method, the matching constructor will be invoked. If your argument list does not match any one of the methods, you will get a compilation error.

2.11 public vs. private - Access Control Modifiers

An *access control modifier* can be used to control the visibility of a class, or a member variable or a member method within a class. We begin with the following two access control modifiers:

- 1. public: The class/variable/method is accessible and available to all the other objects in the system.
- 2. private: The class/variable/method is accessible and available within this class only.

For example, in the above Circle definition, the member variable radius is declared private. As the result, radius is accessible inside the Circle class, but NOT inside the TestCircle class. In other words, you cannot use "c1.radius" to refer to c1's radius in TestCircle. Try inserting the statement "System.out.println(c1.radius);" in TestCircle and observe the error message. Try changing radius to public, and re-run the statement.

On the other hand, the method getRadius () is declared public in the Circle class. Hence, it can be invoked in the TestCircle class.

UML Notation: In UML notation, public members are denoted with a "+", while private members with a "-" in the class diagram.

More access control modifiers will be discussed later.

2.12 Information Hiding and Encapsulation

A class encapsulates the name, static attributes and dynamic behaviors into a "3-compartment box". Once a class is defined, you can seal up the "box" and put the "box" on the shelve for others to use and reuse. Anyone can pick up the "box" and use it in their application. This cannot be done in the traditional procedural-oriented language like C, as the static attributes (or variables) are scattered over the entire program and header files. You cannot "cut" out a portion of C program, plug into another program and expect the program to run without extensive changes.

Member variables of a class are typically hidden from the outside word (i.e., the other classes), with private access control modifier. Access to the member variables are provided via public assessor methods, e.g., getRadius() and getColor().

This follows the principle of *information hiding*. That is, objects communicate with each others using well-defined interfaces (public methods). Objects are not allowed to know the implementation details of others. The implementation details are hidden or encapsulated within the class. Information hiding facilitates reuse of the class.

Rule of Thumb: Do not make any variable public, unless you have a good reason.

2.13 Getters and Setters

To allow other classes to read the value of a private variable says xxx, you shall provide a get method (or getter or accessor method) called getXxx (). A get method need not expose the data in raw format. It can process the data and limit the view of the data others will see. get methods cannot modify the variable.

To allow other classes to *modify* the value of a private variable says xxx, you shall provide a *set method* (or *setter* or *mutator method*) called setXxx(). A set method could provide data validation (such as range checking), and transform the raw data into the internal representation.

For example, in our Circle class, the variables radius and color are declared private. That is to say, they are only available within the Circle class and not visible in any other classes - including TestCircle class. You cannot access the private variables radius and color from the TestCircle class directly - via says cl. radius or cl. color. The Circle class provides two public accessor methods, namely, getRadius() and getColor(). These methods are declared public. The class TestCircle can invoke these public accessor methods to retrieve the radius and color of a Circle object, via says cl.getRadius() and cl.getColor().

There is no way you can change the radius or color of a Circle object, after it is constructed in the TestCircle class. You cannot issue statements such as cl.radius = 5.0 to change the radius of instance cl, as radius is declared as private in the Circle class and is not visible to other classes including TestCircle.

If the designer of the Circle class permits the change the radius and color after a Circle object is constructed, he has to provide the appropriate set methods (or setters or mutator methods), e.g.,

```
// Setter for color
```

```
public void setColor(String c) {
   color = c;
}

// Setter for radius
public void setRadius(double r) {
   radius = r;
}
```

With proper implementation of information hiding, the designer of a class has full control of what the user of the class can and cannot do.

2.14 Keyword "this"

You can use keyword "this" to refer to this instance inside a class definition.

One of the main usage of keyword this is to resolve ambiguity.

In the above codes, there are two identifiers called radius - a member variable of the class and the method's argument. This causes naming conflict. To avoid the naming conflict, you could name the method's argument r instead of radius. However, radius is more approximate and meaningful in this context. Java provides a keyword called this to resolve this naming conflict. "this.radius" refers to the member variable; while "radius" resolves to the method's argument.

Using the keyword "this", the constructor, getter and setter methods for a private variable called xxx of type T are as follows:

```
public class Aaa {
    // A private variable named xxx of type T
    private T xxx;

    // Constructor
    public Aaa(T xxx) {
        this.xxx = xxx;
    }

    // A getter for variable xxx of type T receives no argument and return a value of type T
    public T getXxx() {
        return xxx;
    }

    // A setter for variable xxx of type T receives a parameter of type T and return void
    public void setXxx(T xxx) {
        this.xxx = xxx;
    }
}
```

For a boolean variable xxx, the getter shall be named isXxx(), instead of getXxx(), as follows:

```
// Private boolean variable
private boolean xxx;

// Getter
public boolean isXxx() {
    return xxx;
}

// Setter
public void setXxx(boolean xxx) {
    this.xxx = xxx;
}
```

Notes:

- this.varName refers to varName of this instance; this.methodName(...) invokes methodName(...) of this instance.
- \blacksquare In a constructor, we can use $\mathtt{this}\,(\ldots)$ to call another constructor of this class.
- Inside a method, we can use the statement "return this" to return this instance to the caller.

2.15 Method toString()

Every well-designed Java class should have a public method called toString() that returns a string description of the object. You can invoke the toString() method explicitly by calling anInstanceName.toString() or implicitly via println() or String concatenation operator '+'. Running println(anInstance) with an object argument invokes the toString() method of that instance implicitly.

For example, if the following toString() method is included in our Circle class:

```
// Return a short String description of this instance
public String toString() {
   return "Circle with radius = " + radius + " and color of " + color;
}
```

In your TestCircle class, you can get a short text descriptor of a Circle object by:

The signature of toString() is:

```
public String toString() { ..... }
```

2.16 Constants (final)

Constants are variables defined with the modifier final. A final variable can only be assigned once and its value cannot be modified once assigned. For example,

```
public final double X_REFERENCE = 1.234;

private final int MAX_ID = 9999;
MAX_ID = 10000; // error: cannot assign a value to final variable MAX_ID

// You need to initialize a final member variable during declaration
private final int SIZE; // error: variable SIZE might not have been initialized
```

Constant Naming Convention: A constant name is a noun, or a noun phrase made up of several words. All words are in uppercase separated by underscores', for examples, X REFERENCE, MAX INTEGER and MIN VALUE.

Advanced Notes:

- 1. A final primitive variable cannot be re-assigned a new value.
- 2. A ${\tt final}$ instance cannot be re-assigned a new address.
- 3. A final class cannot be sub-classed (or extended).
- 4. A final method cannot be overridden.

2.17 Putting Them Together in the Revised Circle Class

```
circle
-radius:double = 1.0
-color:String = "red"
+Circle(radius:double,color:String)
+Circle(radius:double)
+Circle()
+getRadius():double
+setRadius(radius:double):void
+getColor():String
+setColor(color:String):void
+getArea():double
+toString():String
```

Circle.java

```
// The Circle class definition
public class Circle { // Save as "Circle.java"
    // Public constants
public static final double DEFAULT_RADIUS = 8.8;
public static final String DEFAULT_COLOR = "red";
```

```
// Private variables
        private double radius;
 8
 9
        private String color;
1.0
11
        // Constructors (overloaded)
                                             // 1st Constructor
12
        public Circle() {
           radius = DEFAULT RADIUS;
13
14
           color = DEFAULT COLOR;
1.5
16
        public Circle(double radius) {
                                           // 2nd Constructor
           this.radius = radius;
17
18
           color = DEFAULT COLOR;
19
20
        public Circle(double radius, String color) { // 3rd Constructor
21
          this.radius = radius;
22
           this.color = color;
23
24
25
        // Public getter and setter for private variables
        public double getRadius() {
26
2.7
           return radius;
28
29
        public void setRadius(double radius) {
          this.radius = radius;
30
31
32
        public String getColor() {
33
          return color;
34
35
        public void setColor(String color) {
36
          this.color = color;
37
38
        // toString() to provide a short description of this instance
39
40
        public String toString() {
41
          return "Circle with radius = " + radius + " and color of " + color;
42
43
44
        // Public methods
        public double getArea() {
4.5
46
          return radius*radius*Math.PI;
47
48
    }
```

TRY

Write a test driver to test ALL the public methods in the Circle class.

More Examples on Classes

3.1 Example: The Account Class

Account -accountNumber:int -balance:double = 0.0 +Account(accountNumber:int, balance:double) +Account(accountNumber:int) +getAccountNumber():int +getBalance():int +setBalance(balance:double):void +credit(amount:double):void +debit(amount:double):void +toString():String A/C no: xxx Balance=\$xxx

A class called Account, which models a bank account, is designed as shown in the class diagram. It contains:

- Two private variables: accountNumber (int) and balance (double),
 which maintains the current account balance.
- Public methods credit() and debit(), which adds or subtracts the given amount from the balance, respectively. The debit() method shall print "amount withdrawn exceeds the current balance!" if amount is more than balance.
- A toString(), which returns "A/C no: xxx Balance=xxx" (e.g., A/C no: 991234 Balance=\$88.88), with balance rounded to two decimal places.

```
Account.java
      /* The Account class Definition */
     public class Account {
        // Private variables
         private int accountNumber;
  5
         private double balance;
  6
  7
        // Constructors
  8
        public Account(int accountNumber, double balance) {
  9
           this.accountNumber = accountNumber;
 10
            this.balance = balance;
 11
 12
         public Account(int accountNumber) {
 13
 14
           this.accountNumber = accountNumber;
            balance = 0;
 15
 16
 17
 18
         // Public getters and setters for private variables
 19
         public int getAccountNumber() {
 2.0
           return accountNumber;
 21
 22
         public double getBalance() {
 23
 24
           return balance;
 25
 26
 27
        public void setBalance(double balance) {
 28
            this.balance = balance;
 29
 30
 31
        public void credit(double amount) {
 32
           balance += amount;
 33
 34
         public void debit(double amount) {
 35
 36
           if (balance < amount) {
 37
               System.out.println("amount withdrawn exceeds the current balance!");
 38
            } else {
 39
               balance -= amount;
 40
         }
 41
 42
 43
         public String toString() {
           return String.format("A/C no: %d Balance=%.2f", accountNumber, balance);
 44
 45
 46
      }
```

TestAccount.java

```
public class TestAccount {
      public static void main(String[] args) {
          Account a1 = new Account (1234, 99.99);
 4
          System.out.println(a1);
 5
         a1.credit(10.001);
          al.debit(5);
          System.out.println(a1);
8
          System.out.println(a1.getBalance());
          a1.setBalance(0);
1.0
         System.out.println(a1);
11
12
          Account a2 = new Account(8888);
13
          System.out.println(a2);
14
```

3.2 Example: The Ball class

A Ball class models a moving ball, designed as shown in the class diagram, contains the following members:

```
Ball

-x:double = 0.0
-y:double = 0.0

+Ball(x:double,y:double)
+Ball()
+getX():double
+setX(x:double):void
+getY():double
+setY(y:double):void
+setXY(x:double, y:double):void
+move(xDisp:double,yDisp:double)
    :void
+toString():String
```

- Two private variables x, y, which maintain the position of the ball.
- Constructors, public getters and setters for the private variables.
- A method setXY(), which sets the position of the ball and setXYSpeed() to set the speed of the ball.
- A method move (), which increases x and y by the given xDisp and yDisp, respectively.
- A toString(), which returns "Ball @ (x,y)".

Ball.java

```
1
    // Define the class Ball
    public class Ball {
 3
       // Private variables
       // Constructors
 6
       public Ball(double x, double y) {
 8
          this.x = x;
9
          this.y = y;
10
       public Ball() {
11
12
          x = 0.0;
13
          y = 0.0;
14
15
       // Public getters and setters for private variables x and y
16
17
       public double getX() {
18
          return x;
19
20
       public void setX(double x) {
2.1
          this.x = x;
2.2
23
       public double getY() {
24
          return y;
25
26
       public void setY(double y) {
27
          this.y = y;
28
29
30
       public void setXY(double x, double y) {
31
          this.x = x;
32
          this.y = y;
33
34
35
       public void move(double xDisp, double yDisp) {
36
         x += xDisp;
37
          y += yDisp;
38
39
       public String toString() {
40
          return "Ball @ (" + x + "," + y + ")";
41
42
43
    }
```

3.3 The Author and Book Classes

Let's start with the Author class

```
-name:String
-email:String
-gender:char

+Author(name:String,email:String,gender:char)
+getName():String
+getEmail():String
+setEmail(email:String):void
+getGender():char
+toString():String
```

A class called Author is defined as shown in the class diagram. It contains:

- Three private member variables: name (String), email (String), and gender (char of either 'm', 'f', or 'u' for unknown - you might also use a boolean variable called male having value of true or false).
- One constructor to initialize the name, email and gender with the given values.

(There is no *default constructor* for Author, as there are no defaults for name, email and gender.)

Public getters/setters: getName(), getEmail(), setEmail(), and getGender().

(There are no setters for name and gender, as these attributes cannot be changed.)

A toString() method that returns "author-name (gender) at email", e.g., "Tan Ah Teck (m) at ahTeck@somewhere.com".

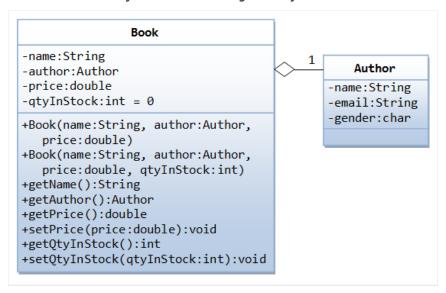
Author.java

```
// The Author class definition
    public class Author {
       // Private variables
       private String name;
 5
       private String email;
       private char gender;
 8
       // Constructor
        public Author(String name, String email, char gender) {
10
          this.name = name;
11
           this.email = email;
12
           this.gender = gender;
13
14
        // Public getters and setters for private variables
15
16
        public String getName() {
17
          return name;
18
19
20
        public String getEmail() {
2.1
          return email;
2.2
23
24
       public char getGender() {
2.5
          return gender;
2.6
27
28
        public void setEmail(String email) {
          this.email = email;
29
30
31
       // toString() to describe itself
32
33
        public String toString() {
           return name + " (" + gender + ") at " + email;
34
3.5
```

A Test Driver Program: TestAuthor.java

```
1  // A test driver for the Author class
2  public class TestAuthor {
3     public static void main(String[] args) {
4         Author teck = new Author("Tan Ah Teck", "teck@somewhere.com", 'm');
5         System.out.println(teck); // toString()
6         teck.setEmail("teck@nowhere.com");
7         System.out.println(teck); // toString()
8         }
9     }
```

A Book is written by an Author - Using an "Object" Member Variable



Let's design a Book class. Assume that a book is written by one and only one author. The Book class (as shown in the class diagram) contains the following members:

- Four private member variables: name (String), author (an *instance* of the class Author you have just created, assume that each book has one and only one author), price (double), and gtyInStock (int).
- Two overloaded constructors.
- Getters/Setters: getName(),
 getAuthor(), getPrice(),
 setPrice(), getQtyInStock(),
 setQtyInStock().
- A toString() that returns "bookname' by author-name (gender) at email".

You should reuse the Author's toString() method, which returns "author-name (gender) at email".

Book.java

```
1
    // The Book class definition
    public class Book {
 3
        // Private variables
        private String name;
       private Author author;
 6
       private double price;
        private int qtyInStock;
 8
 9
        // Constructors
10
        public Book(String name, Author author, double price) {
11
           this.name = name;
12
           this.author = author;
13
           this.price = price;
14
           this.qtyInStock = 0;
                                 // Not given, set to the default value
1.5
16
17
        public Book(String name, Author author, double price, int qtyInStock) {
18
           this.name = name;
19
           this.author = author;
20
           this.price = price;
21
           this.qtyInStock = qtyInStock;
22
23
24
        // Getters and Setters
25
        public String getName() {
26
           return name;
27
28
29
        public Author getAuthor() {
30
           return author; // return member author, which is an instance of class Author
31
32
33
        public double getPrice() {
34
          return price;
35
36
37
        public void setPrice(double price) {
38
          this.price = price;
39
40
41
        public int getQtyInStock() {
42
           return qtyInStock;
43
```

```
public void setQtyInStock(int qtyInStock) {
    this.qtyInStock = qtyInStock;
}

// toString() t describe itself

public String toString() {
    return "'" + name + "' by " + author; // author.toString()
}
```

A Test Driver Program - TestBook.java

```
// A test driver program for the Book class
 2
     public class TestBook {
 3
        public static void main(String[] args) {
          Author teck = new Author("Tan Ah Teck", "teck@somewhere.com", 'm');
 5
           System.out.println(teck); // toString()
 6
           Book dummyBook = new Book("Java for dummies", teck, 9.99, 88);
 8
           System.out.println(dummyBook); // toString()
 9
           Book moreDummyBook = new Book("Java for more dummies",
10
11
                 new Author("Peter Lee", "peter@nowhere.com", 'm'), // anonymous instance of Author
12
                 19.99, 8);
13
           System.out.println(moreDummyBook); // toString()
14
15
     }
```

3.4 The Student Class

-name:String -address:String -numCourses:int = 0 -courses:String[] -grades:int[] +Student(name:String, address:String) +getName():String +getAddress():String +setAddress(address:String):void +toString():String +addCourseGrade(course:String,grade:int):void +printGrade():void +setQtyInStock(qtyInStock:int):void +getAverageGrade():double

Suppose that our application requires us to model a group of students. A student has a name and address. We are required to keep track of the courses taken by each student, together with the grades (between 0 and 100) for each of the courses. A student shall not take more than 30 courses for the entire program. We are required to print all course grades, and also the overall average grade.

We can design the Student class as shown in the class diagram. The class contains:

- Private member variables name (String), address (String), numCourses, course and grades. The numCourses maintains the number of courses taken by the student so far. The courses and grades are two parallel arrays, storing the courses taken (e.g., {"IM101", "IM102", "IM103"}) and their respective grades (e.g. {89, 56, 98}).
- A constructor that constructs an instance with the given name and Address. It also constructs the courses and grades arrays and set the numCourses to 0.
- Getters for name and address; setter for address. No setter is defined for name as it shall not be changed.
- A toString(), which prints "name(address)".
- A method addCourseGrade (course, grade), which appends the given course and grade into the courses and grades arrays, respectively, and increments numCourses.
- A method printGrades(), which prints "name (address) course1:grade1, course2:grade2,...". You should reuse the toString() here.
- A method getAverageGrade(), which returns the average grade of all the courses taken.

UML Notations: In UML notations, a variable is written as [+|-] varName: type; a method is written as [+|-] methodName(arg1:type1, arg2:type2,...): returnType, where '+' denotes public and '-' denotes private.

Student.java

The source code for Student.java is as follows:

```
// The student class definition
    public class Student {
      // Private member variables
      private String name;
      private String address;
       // Courses taken and grades for the courses are kept in 2 arrays of the same length
 6
      private String[] courses;
      private int[] grades;
       8
9
10
       private static final int MAX COURSES = 30; // maximum courses
11
12
      // Constructor
13
       public Student(String name, String address) {
14
          this.name = name;
1.5
          this.address = address;
16
         courses = new String[MAX COURSES]; // allocate arrays
17
         grades = new int[MAX COURSES];
1.8
         numCourses = 0;
                                             // no courses so far
19
20
      // Public getter for private variable name
21
       public String getName() {
22
23
         return name;
24
25
26
       // Public getter for private variable address
2.7
       public String getAddress() {
28
         return address:
29
30
31
       // Public setter for private variable address
32
       public void setAddress(String address) {
33
          this.address = address;
34
35
       // Describe itself
36
37
       public String toString() {
38
          return name + "(" + address + ")";
39
40
       // Add a course and grade
41
42
      public void addCourseGrade(String course, int grade) {
43
         courses[numCourses] = course;
44
          grades[numCourses] = grade;
4.5
          ++numCourses;
46
47
      // Print all courses taken and their grades
48
49
       public void printGrades() {
50
          System.out.print(this);
                                   // toString()
          for (int i = 0; i < numCourses; ++i) {</pre>
51
             System.out.print(" " + courses[i] + ":" + grades[i]);
52
53
54
          System.out.println();
55
56
57
       // Compute the average grade
58
       public double getAverageGrade() {
59
        int sum = 0;
60
         for (int i = 0; i < numCourses; ++i) {
61
            sum += grades[i];
62
          return (double) sum/numCourses;
6.3
64
65 }
```

TestStudent.java

Let us write a test program to create a student named "Tan Ah Teck", who has taken 3 courses, "IM101", "IM102" and "IM103" with grades of 89, 57, and 96 respectively. We shall print all the course grades, and the average grade.

```
// A test driver program for the Student class
    public class TestStudent {
      public static void main(String[] args) {
          Student ahTeck = new Student("Tan Ah Teck", "1 Happy Ave");
          ahTeck.addCourseGrade("IM101", 89);
 5
          ahTeck.addCourseGrade("IM102", 57);
          ahTeck.addCourseGrade("IM103", 96);
 8
          ahTeck.printGrades();
          System.out.printf("The average grade is %.2f", ahTeck.getAverageGrade());
 9
1.0
11
    }
```

```
Tan Ah Teck(1 Happy Ave) IM101:89 IM102:57 IM103:96
The average grade is 80.67
```

3.5 The MyPoint and MyCircle class

MyPoint -x:int = 0-y:int = 0+MyPoint() +MyPoint(x:int, y:int) +getX():int +setX(x:int):void +getY():int +setY(y:int):void +setXY(x:int, y:int):void +toString():String +distance(x:int, y:int):double +distance(another:MyPoint):double

A class called MyPoint, which models a 2D point with x and y coordinates, is designed as shown in the class diagram. It contains:

- Two private member variables x (int) and y (int).
- A default (no-arg) constructor that construct a point at (0,0).
- A constructor that constructs a point with the given x and y coordinates.
- Getter and setter for the private variables x and y.
- A method setXY() to set both x and y.
- A toString() method that returns a string description of the instance in the format "(x, y)".
- A method distance(int x, int y), which returns the distance from this point to another point at the given (x, y) coordinates in double.
- An overloaded distance (MyPoint another) method, which returns the distance from this point to the given MyPoint instance called another.

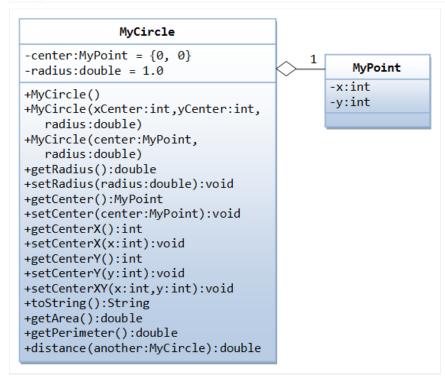
MyPoint.java

```
// The MyPoint class definition
     public class MyPoint {
       // Private member variables
 4
        private int x;
 5
        private int y;
7
       // Constructors
        public MyPoint() {
 8
 9
          x = 0;
           y = 0;
10
11
12
13
        public MyPoint(int x, int y) {
14
           this.x = x;
15
           this.y = y;
16
17
        // Getters and Setters
18
19
        public int getX() {
2.0
         return x;
21
22
        public int getY() {
23
24
          return y;
25
26
27
        public void setX(int x) {
2.8
          this.x = x;
29
30
31
        public void setY(int y) {
32
          this.y = y;
33
34
35
        public void setXY(int x, int y) {
```

```
37
           this.y = y;
38
39
40
        public String toString() {
41
          return "(" + x + "," + y + ")";
42
43
44
        public double distance(int x, int y) {
          int xDiff = this.x - x;
4.5
46
           int yDiff = this.y - y;
           return Math.sqrt(xDiff*xDiff + yDiff*yDiff);
47
48
49
        public double distance(MyPoint another) {
50
51
           int xDiff = this.x - another.x;
           int yDiff = this.y - another.y;
52
5.3
           return Math.sqrt(xDiff*xDiff + yDiff*yDiff);
54
5.5
```

Test Driver Program: TestMyPoint.java

```
// A test driver for MyPoint class
     public class TestMyPoint {
 3
        public static void main(String[] args) {
          MyPoint p1 = new MyPoint();
 4
           System.out.println(p1);
           p1.setXY(0, 3);
 7
           System.out.println(p1);
 9
           MyPoint p2 = new MyPoint(4, 0);
10
           System.out.println(p2);
11
12
           // Test distance() methods
           System.out.println(p1.distance(4, 0));
13
14
           System.out.println(p1.distance(p2));
15
    }
16
```



A class called ${\tt MyCircle}$ is designed as shown in the class diagram. It contains:

- Two private member variables: a radius (double) and a center (an instance of MyPoint, which we created earlier).
- A default (no-arg) constructor that construct a Circle at (0,0) with radius of 1.0.
- A constructor that constructs a Circle with the given xCenter, yCenter and radius.
- A constructor that constructs a Circle with the given instance of MyPoint as center; and radius.
- Getter and setter for the private variables center and radius.
- Methods getCenterX(),
 setCenterXY(), setCenterXY(), etc.
- A toString() method that returns a string description of the instance in the format "center=(x,y) radius=r".
- A distance (MyCircle another) method that returns the distance from this Circle to the given MyCircle instance called another.

MyCircle.java

```
// The MyCircle class definition
    public class MyCircle {
       // Private member variables
       private MyPoint center;  // Declare instance center
 5
       private double radius;
       // Constructors
       public MyCircle() {
 8
9
         center = new MyPoint(); // Construct instance at (0,0)
1.0
          radius = 1.0;
11
12
        public MyCircle(int xCenter, int yCenter, double radius) {
13
14
          center = new MyPoint(xCenter, yCenter); // Construct instance
15
           this.radius = radius;
16
17
18
       public MyCircle(MyPoint center, double radius) {
19
          this.center = center;
           this.radius = radius;
2.0
21
22
23
       // Getters and Setters
24
        public double getRadius() {
25
          return radius;
26
27
        public void setRadius(double radius) {
28
29
         this.radius = radius;
30
31
       public MyPoint getCenter() {
32
         return center;
33
34
35
36
        public void setCenter(MyPoint center) {
37
         this.center = center;
38
39
        public int getCenterX() {
40
41
         return center.getX();
42
43
       public void setCenterX(int x) {
44
45
          center.setX(x);
46
47
48
       public int getCenterY() {
49
          return center.getY();
50
51
       public void setCenterY(int y) {
52
53
         center.setY(y);
54
5.5
56
       public void setCenterXY(int x, int y) {
57
         center.setX(x);
5.8
          center.setY(y);
59
60
61
       public String toString() {
          return "center=" + center + " radius=" + radius;
62
63
64
65
        public double getArea() {
66
          return Math.PI * radius * radius;
67
68
69
        public double getPerimeter() {
         return 2.0 * Math.PI * radius;
70
71
72
73
        public double distance(MyCircle another) {
         return center.distance(another.center); // use distance() of MyPoint
74
75
```

76 }

TestMyCircle.java

```
1
    // A test driver for MyCircle class
    public class TestMyCircle {
 3
        public static void main(String[] args) {
          MyCircle c1 = new MyCircle();
           System.out.println(c1);
           c1.setCenterXY(0, 3);
 6
 7
           System.out.println(c1);
 8
 9
           MyPoint p1 = new MyPoint(4, 0);
           MyCircle c2 = new MyCircle(p1, 9);
10
11
           System.out.println(c2);
12
13
           // Test distance() methods
14
           System.out.println(c1.distance(c2));
15
    }
16
```

3.6 The MyTime class

MyTime -hour:int = 0 -minute:int = 0 -second:int = 0 +MyTime(hour:int,minute:int,second:int) +setTime(hour:int,minute:int,second:int):void +getHour():int +getMinute():int +getSecond():int +setHour(hour:int):void +setMinute(minute:int):void +setSecond(second:int):void +toString():String +nextSecond():MyTime +nextMinute():MyTime +nextHour():MyTime +previousSecond():MyTime +previousMinute():MyTime +previousHour():MyTime

A class called ${\tt MyTime}$, which models a time instance, is designed as shown in the class diagram.

It contains the following private instance variables:

- hour: between 00 to 23.
- minute: between 00 to 59.
- Second: between 00 to 59.

The constructor shall invoke the setTime() method (to be described later) to set the instance variable.

It contains the following public methods:

- setTime(int hour, int minute, int second): It shall check if the given hour, minute and second are valid before setting the instance variables.
 - (Advanced: Otherwise, it shall throw an IllegalArgumentException with the message "Invalid hour, minute, or second!".)
- Setters setHour(int hour), setMinute(int minute), setSecond(int second): It shall check if the parameters are valid, similar to the above.
- Getters getHour(), getMinute(), getSecond().
- toString():returns"HH:MM:SS".
- nextSecond(): Update this instance to the next second and return this instance. Take note that the nextSecond() of 23:59:59 is 00:00:00.
- nextMinute(), nextHour(), previousSecond(),
 previousMinute(), previousHour(): similar to the
 above.

MyTime.java

```
// The MyTime class definition
    3
      // Private member variables
4
      private int hour; // 0-23
5
      private int minute;
                          // 0-59
      private int second; // 0-59
6
8
      // Constructor
9
      public MyTime(int hour, int minute, int second) {
10
         setTime(hour, minute, second);
11
12
      void setTime(int hour, int minute, int second) {
```

```
14
           setHour(hour);
15
           setMinute(minute);
16
           setSecond(second);
17
18
19
        // Setters which validates input with exception handling
20
        void setHour(int hour) {
21
           if (hour >= 0 && hour <= 23) {
22
              this.hour = hour;
23
           } else {
24
              throw new IllegalArgumentException("Invalid hour!");
25
26
        }
27
28
        void setMinute(int minute) {
29
          if (minute >= 0 && minute <= 59) {
30
              this.minute = minute;
31
           } else {
32
              throw new IllegalArgumentException("Invalid minute!");
33
34
        }
35
36
        void setSecond(int second) {
37
          if (second >= 0 && second <= 59) {
38
              this.second = second;
39
           } else {
              throw new IllegalArgumentException("Invalid second!");
40
41
42
43
44
        // Getters
45
        public int getHour() {
46
           return hour;
47
48
        public int getMinute() {
49
50
          return minute;
51
52
        public int getSecond() {
53
54
           return second;
5.5
56
57
        // Return description in the format "hh:mm:ss" with leading zeros
5.8
        public String toString() {
           return String.format("%02d:%02d:%02d", hour, minute, second);
59
60
61
62
        // Increment this instance to the next second, return this instance
63
        public MyTime nextSecond() {
64
          ++second;
65
           if (second == 60) {
66
              second = 0;
67
              ++minute;
68
           }
69
           if (minute == 60) {
              minute = 0;
70
71
              ++hour;
72
73
           if (hour == 24) {
74
              hour = 0;
75
76
           return this; // Return this instance, to support cascaded operation
77
78
    }
```

Exception Handling

What to do if an invalid hour, minute or second was given in the constructor or setter? Print an error message? Abruptly terminate the program? Continue operation by setting the parameter to its default? This is a hard decision.

In Java, instead of printing an error message, you can throw an so-called Exception object (such as IllegalArgumentException) to the caller, and let the caller handles the exception. For example,

```
void setHour(int hour) {
  if (hour >= 0 && hour <= 23) {</pre>
```

```
this.hour = hour;
} else {
   throw new IllegalArgumentException("Invalid hour!");
}
}
```

The caller can use the try-catch construct to handle the exception (in the test driver below). For example,

The statements in the try-clause will be executed. If all the statements are successful, the catch-clause is ignored. However, if one of the statement in the try-clause throws an IllegalArgumentException, the rest of try-clause will be skipped, and the execution transferred to the catch-clause. The program always continues to the next statement after the try-catch.

A Test Driver Class: TestMyTime.java

```
1
     // A test driver program for MyTime
 2
    public class TestMyTime {
 3
       public static void main(String[] args) {
           MyTime t1 = new MyTime(23, 59, 58);
 5
           System.out.println(t1);
 6
           System.out.println(t1.nextSecond());
 7
           System.out.println(t1.nextSecond().nextSecond().nextSecond());
 8
 9
           // MyTime t2 = new MyTime(12, 69, 69); // abrupt termination
10
                                                   // NOT continue to next statement
11
           // Handling exception gracefully
12
13
           try {
              MyTime t3 = new MyTime(12, 69, 69);
1 4
                  // skip remaining statements in try, goto catch
15
16
              System.out.println(t1);
17
           } catch (IllegalArgumentException ex) {
18
             ex.printStackTrace();
19
           } // after try or catch, continue next statement
2.0
21
           System.out.println("Continue after exception!");
22
     }
2.3
```

Without the proper try-catch, the "MyTime t2" will abruptly terminate the program (i.e., the rest of the program will not be run). With proper try-catch handling, the program can continue its operation (i.e., graceful handling of exception).

3.7 Exercises on Defining Classes

LINK TO EXERCISES

LINK TO JAVA REFERENCES & RESOURCES

Latest version tested: JDK 1.7.0_17 Last modified: April, 2013

Feedback, comments, corrections, and errata can be sent to Chua Hock-Chuan (ehchua@ntu.edu.sg) | HOME